

B104

# WORONI

No. 9/1954

6th September, 1954

## HOW THEY BROUGHT THE BUICK FROM AINSLIE TO TURNER

(With sincere apologies to Robert Browning, who made this epic work possible) ø

I sprang to the roadway and Maris and he;  
I pushed, John pushed, we pushed all three.  
"Good God", yelled the driver as the baskets all blew  
"What's up" answered John as we pushed on anew.  
And then stopped the piston, the lights sank to rest,  
And into the midnight we vanished depressed.

Not a word to each other we kept the snail's pace,  
Neck by neck, stride by stride, never changing  
our place.

I turned in my seat and I shut the doors tight  
Then shorted the battery and set the gears right;  
Primed up the carby, put petrol in it  
But still she'd not fire - not even a bit.

'Twas moonset at starting, but while we drew near  
Northbourne the cocks crew and daylight dawned clear.  
At Limestone a great yellow star came to see  
At Reid it was mornig as plain as could be.  
And from St. John's steeple we heard the half chimes,  
So Maris broke silence: "Let's write to the Times!"

At Barton up leaped of a sudden the sun,  
And 'twas then that the battle began to be won.  
We peered through the mist and pushed our way past  
And the engine - she spluttered to life at long last.  
With resolute shoulders, each heaving away,  
We felt the car move for a yard on its way.

The doors opened up and the mudguards bent back  
As it surged with full strength for a yard of the  
track.

And in this spare moment we happened to think....  
The Wellington! So we adjourned for a drink.  
Ah! the brown foamin' schooners we were not denied,  
For we'd pushed twenty miles, and were thus bona fide.

By Forrest John groaned; and cried Maris "Drop dead,  
When we get to the College we'll put you to bed".  
But he was exhausted; he started to wheeze;  
He stumbled; he staggered; he sagged at the knees,  
And racked with a horrible pain in his shank,  
He fell onto his haunches and shuddered and sank.

So we were left pushing, just Maris and I  
Past Acton, past Civic, no cloud in the sky.  
The broad sun above laughed a pitiless laugh.

ø Robert might have been browning before, but I guess he's completely browned off now. (Ed!).

ORGAN OF THE  
CANBERRA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Alas! we poor horses could not even chaff.  
 'Till over by Turner the school tower sprang white  
 And "Push man", gasped Maris, "The Uni's in sight".

"Oh how will they greet us?" she cried with a moan,  
 And thinking of that said she guessed she's go home.  
 And there was poor me left to bear the whole weight,  
 And what's more I'd been left to a horrible fate.  
 One person can't shift it; I tried till near bust,  
 Then down by the High School I sank in the dust.

Came realization - I felt I could bawl -  
 I leapt in the cabin; no trouble at all,  
 Switched on the ignition and crashed into gear,  
 Called Yell, who'd forgot it, what no maid should hear,  
 Steered the last quarter-mile the best way I could  
 Till the Buick to C.U.C. rattled and stood.

And all I remember is foes flocking round,  
 As I sat with my head 'twixt by knees on the ground.  
 And no voice was praising this action of mine,  
 All thy said to me ever was "resign! resign!"  
 And they vowed the petition that they would present,  
 Was no more than was due to the S.R.C. gent.

(Copyright preserved. All proceeds will be devoted to a fund for the benefit of deposed S.R.C. members).

"G. CHATTERTON"

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CO-OPERATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN  
 NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

The S.R.C. has for some time been discussing the question of a working partnership with the students' organisation at the Australian National University. Negotiations were opened recently when the Secretary of the S.R.C., John Brook, discussed the matter with the Acting Secretary of the A.N.U. Students' Association, Joe Gani. At that meeting it was decided that a representative of the S.R.C. would be invited to attend the next Annual Meeting of the A.N.U. Association to explain the idea to the scholars. This meeting was held on Thursday, 8th July, and a report handed to the S.R.C. by our representative is published below for the information of students in the College.

Report of Meeting with A.N.U. Students' Association  
 Annual General Meeting 8.7.54

Asked to speak, after the Secretary, Mr. Gani, had read an account of his meeting with John Brook, I explained that the College had 300 students, including 70 non-examination students. They had 60. It was obvious that neither was large enough to sponsor a full range of activities, but we could achieve this by cooperation. In view of the proposed separation of the College from Melbourne, and the likelihood of a merger with A.N.U., the C.U.C.S.A. felt that some link with the A.N.U. students now might help to pave the way in the event of the two institutions being amalgamated.

C.U.C.S.A. had the following facilities to offer -



"Woroni"	Hockey	Tennis	C.U.D.S.
"Prometheus"	Cricket	Badminton	Music Society
	Basketball	Tabletennis	)

We would welcome them at any of our clubs or activities, such as dances, films etc., and would be prepared to distribute "Woroni" at A.N.U. in return for contributions.

In return we hoped for a reciprocal invitation to use their facilities, recruits for our teams (or for a joint team), contributions etc.

The link, which had the support of the S.R.C. (but on which the College officials had expressed no opinion) was not visualised as a merger of the two associations, or even as a formal affair. Rather we were hoping that a spirit of cooperation could be fostered, with participation in each other's activities: a system of sending observers to each other's meetings and the posting of notices of coming events were suggested.

The meeting was in general favour of the idea. A close and formal association is not favoured because the A.N.U. Association is largely a "union" formed to represent students in dealings with A.N.U. In doing this they emphasise the idea that they are a special, graduate body and they feared that close association with CUCSA might weaken their status. Nevertheless they agreed with the sentiment of cooperation and assured us that a full measure would be forthcoming. The facilities available to them are limited to University House, which is not controlled by the Association, whose annual balance sheet for 1953/4 amounted to only £14.10.0. To gain access to these facilities CUCSA would have to approach the Master but their Association would be prepared to lend moral support to such an approach.

It was felt, however, that the greatest opportunity for cooperation lay in the field of sport and this was the only real way the two bodies of students could get to know each other. It was true that there were insufficient students in Canberra to form two sets of teams and the meeting agreed to the principle of joint membership in the teams. A separate sporting association existed at A.N.U. and the best method of approach would be direct to them. They accepted the invitation of CUCSA to the College activities and expressed their thanks. Arrangements to advertise such activities on University House notice boards were made. The meeting agreed that observers from the two associations could attend meetings held by the other body, and a formal motion expressing a spirit of cooperation with CUCSA was carried.

Like CUCSA the ANU Association is not a hyper-active organisation. Total potential membership is about 60 with actual membership in the vicinity of 40. At present they have little in the way of facilities and formal or organised social activity. It is doubtful at this stage whether any great signs of social intercourse will emerge apart from association on the sporting side. This should receive attention as soon as possible and it is suggested that the CUC Sports Council should continue its present efforts to interest ANU scholars in our sporting teams. This has already met with some success and the attraction of more members will help to forge a link with the ANU. It is also felt that regular observers should be sent to ANU meetings and personal contact kept up with the executive members of their Association. Regular invitations to our activities will be posted on their notice boards.

J. EDWARDS  
PRESIDENT, S.R.C.



EDITORIAL

When the S.R.C. bought a 1927 utility, it seems that they bought a good deal more besides. We cannot yet say just what they did buy. There will be a General Meeting to discuss the matter, despite all the technical legal defects of the petition which was presented to the S.R.C. - we have received an assurance to that effect. It will be a Meeting the like of which has never been held at the College, within our knowledge anyway, and those who fostered the petition want the S.R.C.'s scalps and nothing less.

Should they have them? The full story of the bomb has not been told yet, and particularly we feel the S.R.C. side. The main argument which they have to face is not the spending of so much money - they spent much more on a typewriter earlier in the year, at the instigation of the last Annual Meeting, and the Editors could speak very feelingly in favour of that. The main argument is that there is not use enough for a utility to warrant it. And with this a lot of students will agree. Even if it can be sold again for the same price, there are expenses of repair, registration and insurance which it will need a big profit on resale to cover and which even that shrewd business-man Edwards may find beyond him.

On the other side, it is our personal view that the present SRC had, up to last month anyway, done a good job. There is a tradition of service starting to build up in the College now, similar to that in the other Universities, and SRC membership is becoming an arduous business. If only they had not let enthusiasm run away with them, as they certainly have done.

But there is one result of the bomb which no-one can deny. It has aroused more student interest than any other event for years, even the "Communist scare" of loving memory. It has attracted the attention of most students. There will be very few at the College now who have never heard of the SRC. Two years ago, as we know well, 50% would have been a conservative figure: three years ago the whole Association was in danger of disappearing without trace. Apathy has retreated a few paces. Perhaps the interest it has aroused is as good a justification as the bomb requires.

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While one group of students at the College continues its criticism of the Students' Association over the purchase of an old model utility truck for use in University processions, the majority of students are following the matter in the daily press with considerable enthusiasm. Here is an up to the minute comment on a decidedly ancient vehicle, written by a full-time Arts student at the College.

"THE BOMB"

"I'll resign" he cried  
 Waving pathetic bats towards  
 A laughing umpire Council.  
 They let him leave the field  
 muttering. And Council grinned,  
 with the wry grin of one who  
 may yet - dare we hope? -  
 turn impossibility into reality.  
 Twenty quid and a replaceable blanket  
 in exchange for student interest!!!  
 (and a nine-day wonder).  
 Nurse the baby carefully.

D.G.E.

(It was explained that the phrase "replaceable blanket" referred to any student who acted like a wet blanket where the car was concerned. Ed.)

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THE CRICKET CLUB will be fielding TWO TEAMS next season and is looking for recruits among students. Will anyone interested in playing apply to John O'Brien, F06 or John Brook F03.



# I SEE THE BOMB . . .

(by our special correspondent)

Well I've seen it. And I say say that I have been most impressed(!) By now, of course, everyone will know the story - how a "rebel" group of students has charged the S.R.C. will grand larceny, how petitions are in the air and how all your funds have gone down the drain. Far from convinced, "Woroni" sent me out to gather at least a few facts and to present them as part of its all embracing free service (credit line).

## What the hell is it, anyway?

It's a car - or rather it was a car before someone cut it down and made it into a utility or somesuch. Now its got a bonnet, a steel hood like Ned Kelly's helmet and a tray back big enough to hold all the active students in the College. It's car, it's all car - 36 cwt. of it! Don't be misled into thinking it's old - oh dear no. The sweet old thing only dates from 1927 - it's even younger than you and I, dearie. Already the evil-looking thing is showing signs of developing a tradition. The brain-child of the present SRC, lead by President Edwards, the car was allegedly purchased as the figure head for a student rag and for next year's Commem. procession. Even at this stage it has given indications of being ideally suited to the task. Purchased on the eve of an SRC meeting, the car apparently gave an impressive demonstration and as the price was right (less than for a good push-bike) the thing was paid for on the spot. The agent rushed off in high glee, rounded up the remainder of the SRC and returned to the scene of battle. And? And in the words of one participant; "the bl---y thing wouldn't go!" So they pushed it. They pushed it for miles and miles, in a foretaste of what was to become their most fruitful source of recreation for the ensuing few days. Then, weakening, they tried to tow it. At a late hour of the night a great chain was secured from Turner and hitched to the vehicle. Carefully, and in great trepidation, they started the tow car off against a dead drag of a ton and a half hanging onto the rear bumper. Rip; ban; CRASH!! Anxiously leaping to the ground they discovered the chain had broken. This happened three times. Finally, however, they got the thing rolling.

"On we rolled," Treasurer Carroll told me; "we rolled on and on. And after ten minutes of this we discovered that the second driver had turned on everything conceivable except the ignition. Ye Gods!" Finally, of course, it went. Roaring, banging, spluttering, backfiring and fuming it roared off, reeking, into the black night with a crew of two (navigator and bombardier). As you know from the press, it fetched up in Northbourne Avenue, just aft of the orange lights, and (with a sign of contentment) breathed its last. And in the words of one participant; "the bl---y thing wouldn't go".

## What Happened?

It stayed there, alone and friendless, until the night of the College dance. Then a further determined assault was made and the SRC managed to get the decrepit monstrosity to the College - half-towing, half driving, always in constant fear of death. And for why? Because they had discovered that whenever the bomb idled when starting or stopping on the road, neat petrol poured from the "works" onto the exposed, hot, exhaust-pipe. Lovely!! Triumphantly, the crew gave a sigh, beamed at the incredulous nine p.m. lectures-end onlookers, and went in to dance. When they came out the thing was gone! After students at the dance had thrown in 18/4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. as a voluntary contribution towards its purchase! Needless to say they were thunder-struck.

## And Now?

The battle raged on. Two members of the SRC resigned. One



person not on the SRC also "resigned". The President made statements, the Treasurer appeared in the press, the rebels waxed more and more vociferous. In the middle of it, a harassed SRC worked on the car. Recovered from its resting place in a vacant paddock the bomb was given the works. Skilful mechanics labouring furiously, anonymously backed by large oil companies, toiled far into the day. Despite all the gloomy predictions they discovered nothing worse than a carburettor choked with dust. In triumph they shattered the quiet Sunday afternoon as they, and the tennis club onlookers, drove in state round and round the College.

Much more could be told - how the battery was flattened by some cute character. How it stalled at Braddon Engineers (In the words of one participant, ----- etc.), how it nearly blew up on Scott's Crossing bridge, and how it covered the last few yards to safety in crestfallen humility. When I saw it, however, it had had the benefit of a little more attention, and claned and oiled it gave a most impressive performance around the quieter streets of the south side. You'll see it, have no fear. When you do, you'll discover that it's been registered, refurbished and repainted in a most satisfying variety of styles. I think you'll agree that we are getting good value for our money.

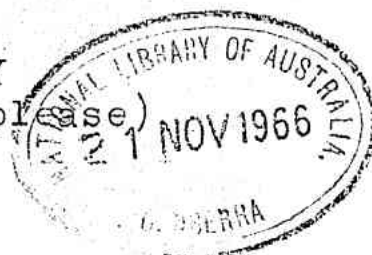
See you at the General Meeting.

JAC KMURRAY

(the "K" is silent, please)

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S.R.C. NOTICES



GENERAL MEETING

PRELIMINARY NOTICE

A general meeting of all students at the College has been called for Thursday, 16th September, in the Students' Common Room at 8.00 p.m. Details of the agenda will be placed on the notice boards.

J. EDWARDS, President  
J. BROOK, Secretary

The College has very kindly provided a number of LOCKERS for use by students. These are located in the Students' Common Room and will be allocated to students who would like to use them. The only charge will be a deposit of 5/- on the key. Will anyone who wants a locker please contact Maris King in the Common Room between 6.00 and 7.00 pm

Remember the SRC LITERARY COMPETITION. Entries will close on 1st February, 1955 and may take the form of poetry, drama, essays, short stories or a novel. First prize £7.7.0, plus two prizes of £2.2.0 each.

The SRC has received and accepted resignations from the following members - M. Yell and L. Melhuish.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I read with interest and disgust reports that the new Commonwealth Bridge will be sufficiently wide for three lanes of cars, a Canberra bus, a horse float, a travelling circus, and two brewery wagons to cross it abreast.

These examples of the typical emphasis of the Australian way-of-life on all that is low and degrading should not be allowed to let pass. The strongest representations should be made to Mr. Ken Tughes with a view to having the bridge widened so as also to carry a Sunday School picnic excursion party (whether in bus or charabanc) and a mobile missionary loudspeaker van in order that the work of the Lord may continue unhindered.

Yours etc., R.D.